



The Innovations in American Government Awards

February 16, 2005

Ms. Marla Warner
Special Projects Administrator
Office of Strategy and Business Management
175 N.W. 1st Avenue, 29th floor
Miami, FL 33128

Re: Results-Oriented Government

Dear Ms. Warner:

Thank you for applying for a 2005 Innovations in American Government Award. This year, Innovations received over 1,000 applications from jurisdictions across the country, encompassing a wide range of policy areas. It is gratifying to know that our nation's public sector continues to be so innovative and so effective. Accordingly, review teams struggled to select 150 semifinalists. Although your program was not chosen to advance we appreciate your impressive accomplishments.

The reviewers, however, specifically identified your program as being noteworthy and placed it among the top twenty-five percent of the applicant pool. Most often, this identification is the result of their belief that the program, while no longer innovative, implements established best practices. Noteworthy programs are, therefore, examples of government at its finest, and I congratulate you for your extraordinary efforts on behalf of citizens.

It is my hope that the Innovations program will serve as a resource for information not only about novel initiatives, but also about best practices. We must share the good work that so many public servants are doing across this nation and around the globe. As many past applicants have expressed interest in following the awards cycle and learning about the winning programs, Innovations staff will post information on the website as it becomes available. The website already contains information on the selection process and prior award winners. We encourage you to register on our new Harvard Innovators website <http://www.innovations.harvard.edu/> where we will weekly present government innovations.

I greatly appreciate your committing the time and thought necessary to present a formidable application. On behalf of the reviewers, members of the Innovations staff, the Ford Foundation, and Harvard University, I wish you continued success in all of your endeavors and hope through the website and perhaps future applications you can stay in touch with us.

Sincerely,

Stephen Goldsmith
Director, Innovations in American Government

For more information on innovative practices, please register and join our community of government innovators: <http://www.innovations.harvard.edu/>